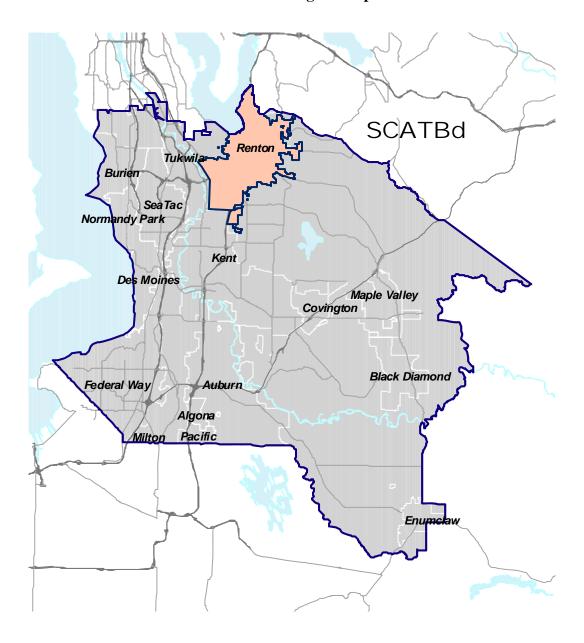
South County Area Transportation Board

2007 Annual Progress Report



2007 Annual Report

South County Area Transportation Board (SCATBd)

<u>Mission</u>: The mission of SCATBd is to serve as a South King County forum for information sharing, consensus building, and coordinating in order to resolve transportation issues and promote transportation programs that benefit the South King County area.

Goals: To achieve its mission, SCATBd adopted the following goals:

- 1. Develop and promote a transportation system that will provide personal mobility choices for South County residents consistent with the transportation goals of the Growth Management Act and:
- 2. Develop and promote transportation and related actions that promote and sustain economic development, through efficient movement of people and goods, within the South County and contiguous areas.

<u>History</u>: A South County Area Transportation Board, composed of four cities and King County, initially was formed in the late 1980's to identify and promote transportation improvements in the South County. Significant funding was received from the Transportation Improvement Board for these purposes, and the informal group moved toward forming a Transportation Benefit District. At King County's request, this effort was superseded in 1992 by the formation of a new and expanded SCATBd involving fourteen South County cities and King County. This was accomplished through adoption of formal motions by each participating jurisdiction. Subsequently, interlocal agreements were adopted to guide SCATBd operations.

Since 1992, SCATBd has provided valuable input to the development of the King County Metro Transit Six-Year Plan and service implemented in accordance with that plan and the development and implementation of Sound Transit's Sound Move Plan. SCATBd also has competed successfully for federal funding, has provided input to State Legislative actions, and was instrumental in providing South King County priorities for the Roads and Transit ballot measure.

<u>SCATBd Structure</u>: Members of SCATBd for 2007 are shown on the following page. Each elected official representing a city or county has one vote. Agency representatives are non-voting members. In addition to formal membership, South King County Chambers of Commerce are encouraged to attend. During 2007 Mayor John Wise served as Chair and Mayor Suzette Cooke served as Vice Chair.

<u>SCATBd Website</u>: Additional information about SCATBd, including meeting schedules and summaries, is available at the following address:

http://www.metrokc.gov/kcdot/tp/subareas/SCATBd.stm

2007 SCATBd Members:

2007 SCATBd Members:	M D '111'11			
Algona	Mayor David Hill			
Auburn	Mayor Peter Lewis			
	Councilmember Roger Thordarson (Alt.)			
Black Diamond	Mayor Howard Botts			
Burien	Councilmember Sue Blazak			
	Councilmember Lucy Krakowiak (Alt.)			
Covington	Mayor Pro Tem Bud Sizemore			
	Mayor Margaret Harto (Alt.)			
Des Moines	Councilmember Dave Kaplan			
	Grant Fredericks, P.E. (Alt.)			
Enumclaw	Mayor John Wise (Chair)			
	Chris Searcy (Alt.)			
Federal Way	Councilmember Jeanne Burbidge			
•	Cary Roe (Alt.)			
Kent	Mayor Suzette Cooke (Chair)			
	Larry Blanchard (Alt.)			
King County	Councilmember Julia Patterson			
<i>6</i> ,	Executive Ron Sims			
	Doug Hodson (Alt.)			
Maple Valley	Councilmember Noel Gerken			
	Nick Afzali (Alt.)			
Milton	Councilmember Margaret Drotz			
TVIII OII	Mayor Katrina Asay (Alt.)			
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe	None appointed			
1120 1120 1120 1120 1120 1120 1120 1120	Trone appointed			
Normandy Park	Councilmember Stuart Creighton			
Pacific	Councilmember Nicole Hagestad			
	Councilmember Dawn Drury (Alt.)			
Pierce Transit	Susan Lang			
Port of Seattle	Michael Cheyne			
Puget Sound Regional Council	Charlie Howard			
Renton	Councilmember Marcie Palmer			
	Councilmember Don Persson (Alt.)			
SeaTac	Councilmember Don DeHan			
	Dale Schroeder (Alt.)			
TIB	Steve Gorcester			
	Greg Armstrong(Alt.)			
Tukwila	Councilmember Pam Carter			
	Jim Morrow, P.E. (Alt.)			
WSDOT	Chris Picard			
-				

2007 SCATBd Work Program Goals and Accomplishments

In early 2007, SCATBd adopted goals for its work program for 2007. These are shown below, with a brief indication of the accomplishments achieved for each goal.

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2007 Goal	2007 Accomplishments			
Funding and Implementation: Clarify and provide input on SCATBd priorities for funding	 SCATBd asked the Ports of Seattle and Tacoma Commissioners for their help as a funding partner with RTID projects. SCATBd provided input to RTID and Sound Transit on regional transportation package. SCATBd supported the Lake Washington Urban Partnership proposal, which could provide \$118 million of federal funding to implement a traffic management program, including tolling, in the SR 520 corridor SCATBd asked the Regional Transit Committee to postpone actions on shifting cities among subareas, such as moving Lake Forest Park to the East King Subarea until its implications can be assessed. SCATBd further suggested that this be incorporated into the work plan for 2008. 			
Advocacy: Promote funding and implementation of SCATBd priority projects and programs	 SCATBd supported legislation that would allow voters to approve or reject both the RTID and ST plan with one vote. SCATBd supported the Roads and Transit ballot measure. SCATBd asked the 2007 State Legislature to: Make legislative changes that may be needed for success of the joint RTID-Sound Transit package Not make any governance changes that would interfere with the RTID – Sound Transit ballot Protect and sustain existing transportation funding, such as the Nickel Package and Transportation Partnership Account Make refinements to the Transportation Benefit District mechanism to allow more local flexibility Provide additional funding to assure that local governments can successfully implement the new CTR program 			

2007 SCATBd Correspondence

Phone: (206) 263-4710 Fax: (206) 684-2111

The Honorable Reagan Dunn Chair, Regional Transit Committee King County Council 516 Third Avenue, Room 1200 Seattle, WA 98104-3272 October 23, 2007

Dear Chair Dunn:

On behalf of the South County Area Transportation Board (SCATBd), we are writing to supplement our letter sent to you on September 24, 2007. At that time, we requested that the Regional Transit Committee (RTC) postpone action on any changes to the subarea boundaries for accounting for Metro Transit resources until after the affected cities, subarea boards and Suburban Cities Association can review the implications and take a position. We would like to take this opportunity to emphasize the need for additional analysis and review before any action is taken.

We believe that modifications to the subarea boundaries or cities within each subarea may have implications beyond those intended for Metro accounting purposes. We think that a more thorough review of these implications could provide an opportunity for improvements to develop a policy that is more responsive to current and anticipated needs, and provide an established procedure for making changes, such as shifting cities from one subarea to another. We understand that the Regional Transit Committee may believe that it is necessary to address issues of subarea boundaries as part of the changes to the Metro's Comprehensive Plan for Public Transportation that is being discussed at this month's meeting. We would argue that any changes of this nature should be postponed, to be addressed as part of the extensive update scheduled for next year.

Again, SCATBd feels strongly that no changes should be made until a much more comprehensive analysis is completed, and the affected parties have an opportunity to weigh in. We hope you agree and postpone any action at this time.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Wise

Mayor, City of Enumclaw

Chair, SCATBd

Suzette Cooke

Mayor, City of Kent Vice Chair, SCATBd

cc: RTC Members

King County Council Members Suburban Cities Association SCATBd members

201 South Jackson Street Seattle, WA 98104-3856

Phone: (206) 263-4710 Fax: (206) 684-2111

June 28, 2007

The Honorable Shawn Bunney Chair, Executive Board Regional Transportation Investment District 411 University Street, Suite 1200 Seattle, WA. 98101

The Honorable John Ladenburg Chair, Sound Transit Board 401 South Jackson Street Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Chair Bunney and Chair Ladenburg:

After several years of reviewing draft information and providing input on South King County priorities, the South County Area Transportation Board (SCATBd) is pleased to write this letter of support for the Roads and Transit package, including the final *Blueprint for Progress*, and the next phase of Sound Transit, referred to as ST2.

SCATBd believes that the joint package offered by the Regional Transportation Investment District (RTID) and Sound Transit includes the highest priority projects and incorporates many of the suggestions and comments we provided in previous communications to the RTID Executive Board and the Sound Transit Board. We believe that these plans build on previous investments of the State and Sound Transit and offer projects that will provide the greatest benefit to our citizens and the region. Specifically, we support the following (these are in no particular order):

- 1. Extension of light rail south through South King County to the Tacoma Dome
- 2. Completion of the Tukwila Sounder Station, full implementation of Sounder Commuter Rail service, and the additional parking projects in Auburn and Burien.
- 3. Completion of the I/5/SR 509 corridor
- 4. Completion of critical improvements to address chokepoints and bottlenecks in the SR 167 corridor, and direct HOV to HOV access at the SR 167/I-405 interchange
- 5. Additional lane capacity on the south end of Interstate 405, particularly between SR 169 and I-90
- 6. Funding to nearly complete the I-5/SR 18/SR 161 (Federal Way "Triangle") interchange to provide enhanced safety, freight mobility and congestion relief.
- 7. Completion of the Industrial Way HOV Ramp and the South Park Bridge projects to improve travel reliability for freight and transit.

The Honorable Shawn Bunney and The Honorable John Ladenburg July 28, 2007
Page 2

SCATBd appreciates the hard work and compromises by the Sound Transit Board, the RTID Executive Board and many others in developing this joint transportation package. We recognize that the project does not include every project and every recommendation put forward by SCATBd, but we believe the blend of road and transit investments are an important step forward for this region.

We would also like to thank the Ports of Seattle and Tacoma for their involvement and contribution to the I-5/SR 509 and SR 167 projects. Their cooperation provides an essential component to ensure a complete and robust transportation package.

We believe that this Roads and Transit package is necessary to maintain and expand our region's economy, especially employment related to trade and other areas of economic development, and to enhance our quality of life. We urge the King County Council to place this measure on the ballot, and look forward to a successful vote in November.

Sincerely,

John Wise

Mayor, City of Enumclaw

Chair

Suzette Cooke Mayor, City of Kent

Suzette Cooke

Vice Chair

South County Area Transportation Board

cc: Sound Transit Board members

RTID Executive Board members

SCATBd members

Port of Seattle Commissioners King County Councilmembers Pierce County Councilmembers The following letter was sent to the legislators listed below:

The Honorable	Patty	Murray	Senator	U.S. Senate
The Honorable	Maria	Cantwell	Senator	U.S. Senate
The Honorable	Jim	McDermott	Representative, 7th District	Representatives
The Honorable	Dave	Reichert	Representative, 8th District	Representatives
The Honorable	Jay	Inslee	Representative, 1st District	Representatives
The Honorable	Rick	Larsen	Representative, 2nd District	Representatives
The Honorable	Adam	Smith	Representative, 9th District	Representatives

Phone: (206) 263-4710 Fax: (206) 684-2111

June 19, 2007

The Honorable Patty Murray Senator, Washington State U.S. Senate 173 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Murray:

The South County Area Transportation Board (SCATBd) was recently briefed on the Urban Partnership component of the United States Department of Transportation's (USDOT) new National Strategy to Reduce Congestion on America's Transportation Network. Under an Urban Partnership Agreement (UPA), USDOT's partner metropolitan areas will commit to the pursuit of aggressive strategies under the umbrella of the "Four Ts" – tolling, transit, telecommuting and technology – in a combined approach to reducing traffic congestion. In this region, the Partnership proposal submitted jointly by King County, the Puget Sound Regional Council and the Washington State Department of Transportation seeks to improve traffic flow by rigorously pursuing congestion reduction strategies across Lake Washington using the "Four Ts". On June 7, USDOT Secretary Peters announced that our metropolitan area has been selected as one of nine Preliminary Urban Partners. Over the next six weeks, USDOT will negotiate with each of the Preliminary Urban Partners regarding the details of their proposals. Based on the results of those negotiations, and considering the level of local support, the USDOT will announce up to five final Urban Partners in August.

In this time of increasing travel demand and limited resources, we need to explore all options that will better manage our existing transportation facilities for maximum efficiency. Options that also have the potential for obtaining additional revenues deserve even more consideration. SCATBd was an early supporter of the SR 167 HOT lane pilot project that will begin next year. We believe that the practical experience with this and with the tolling and technology to be instituted shortly on the Tacoma Narrows Bridge will build acceptance among our citizens. Furthermore, a large segment of employers in the SR 520 corridor rely on telecommuting, adding to this region's qualifications for a successful Urban Partnership.

SCATBd believes that the Urban Partnership program offers an excellent opportunity to explore how tolling, along with technology, telecommuting and transit, could contribute to the improvement and efficiency of our transportation systems. SCATBd supports the Urban

The Honorable Patty Murray Page 2 June 19, 2007

Partnership program and encourages its implementation through the USDOT, and the provision of federal funds to this region for early project application.

Suzette Cooke

We hope this is helpful. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

John Wise Mayor, City of Enumclaw

Chair

Suzette Cooke Mayor, City of Kent Vice Chair

South County Area Transportation Board

cc: SCATBd members

The Honorable Ron Sims, King County Executive

Bob Drewel, Executive Director, Puget Sound Regional Council

Secretary Douglas MacDonald, Washington State Department of Transportation

The Honorable Christine Gregoire, Governor, Washington State Secretary Mary Peters, United States Department of Transportation

April 6, 2007

Phone: (206) 263-4710 Fax: (206) 684-2111

Tom Pierson Federal Way Chamber of Commerce, Inc. P.O. Box 3440 Federal Way, WA 98063

Dear Mr. Pierson:

On behalf of the South County Area Transportation Board (SCATBd), comprised of locally elected officials from King County and seventeen South King County cities, we are writing to invite you to attend our next meeting and join us in a conversation about upcoming important steps for transportation. We understand that you have been involved with members of other chambers in the area regarding transportation issues, and we would appreciate the opportunity to hear your perspective. We believe that the success of the regional transportation package that will be on the November ballot is critical to the continued economic vitality of this area. A copy of our comments to the Sound Transit Board and Regional Transportation District Investment Executive Board is attached for your information.

With the end of the legislative session approaching, we think it is time to focus our discussion on what we might do to educate our citizens about the package and seek their support. To achieve this, we understand that we will need to form a partnership with the business community.

We hope that you will be able to attend our next meeting and share with us your ideas, concerns and priorities. The meeting will be held from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 17 in the Council Chambers at SeaTac City Hall (4800 South 188th Street). Please contact Sally Marks at sally.marks@metrokc.gov or 206-263-4710 to let us know if you can attend.

Please feel free to contact either of us if you have any questions. We are looking forward to a good discussion in April.

Sincerely,

John Wise

Mayor, City of Enumclaw

Chair

Suzette Cooke
Suzette Cooke
Mayor, City of Kent

Vice Chair

South County Area Transportation Board

Attachment (SCATBd letter on joint regional package)

cc: SCATBd members

Phone: (206) 263-4710 Fax: (206) 684-2111

March 29, 2007

The Honorable John Creighton President, Port of Seattle Commission P.O. Box 1209 Seattle, WA. 98111

The Honorable Jack Fabulich President, Port of Tacoma Commission P.O. Box 1837 Tacoma, WA. 98401

Dear Presidents Creighton and Fabulich:

On behalf of the South County Area Transportation Board (SCATBd), we are writing to make sure that you are aware of SCATBd's support for the draft plans for the Regional Transportation Investment District (RTID), the revised Blueprint for Progress, and the next phase of Sound Transit, referred to as ST2. In addition, SCATBd has asked us to contact you to seek your help as partners in making these plans a reality.

SCATBd has devoted many hours over the last five years in identifying and refining priority projects for funding through a regional transportation package. We are now at a point where the project list has been narrowed to a limited set of roads and transit priorities. While there are other important transportation needs in South King County and Pierce County that still need funding, several of which could significantly benefit freight mobility, we believe that the draft RTID and ST plans include the most important projects to undertake next. These improvements will complement the initial investments in Sound Transit facilities and services and the improvements in the state system that are being made with the Nickel package and the Transportation Partnership Account. Together, we believe that these are the highest priorities for the next set of investments to improve mobility for freight, transit, commuters and the general public.

Specifically, we support the following projects included in the draft plans:

- 1. Improvements to the SR 509 corridor.
- 2. Improvements to the SR 167 corridor, including investments to alleviate chokepoints, direct HOV to HOV access at the SR 167/I-405 interchange and an extension to the Port of Tacoma.
- 3. Extensions of light rail as far south as possible, ideally reaching the Tacoma Dome as part of ST2.
- 4. Completion of the Tukwila Sounder Station, full implementation of Sounder Commuter Rail service, and the additional projects in Auburn and Burien.

The Honorable John Creighton and The Honorable Jack Fabulich March 29, 2007 Page 2

- 5. Improvements at I-5/SR 18/SR 161 (Federal Way Triangle), representing an important project for freight mobility and congestion relief.
- 6. The Industrial Way HOV Ramp and the South Park Bridge projects, which will provide considerable benefit to South King and Pierce County residents, transit riders and businesses.

Unfortunately, given anticipated cost increases, it appears that the regional package will not be able to fully fund all the needed projects. For example, the \$870 million of RTID funds is not sufficient to complete the full SR 509 corridor improvements. As you know, this is an important project necessary for congestion relief on I-5, improved access to the airport and seaport, and general mobility for freight and other traffic in this part of the region. We appreciate the Port of Seattle's partnership in this project, evidenced by its funding commitment to the South Access project. We urge the Commission to seriously consider additional contributions to the SR 509 project to bring it closer to full completion.

In addition, SCATBd has long supported improvements in the SR 167 corridor in both King and Pierce Counties. We were pleased to see that the RTID plan includes some funding for projects in King County and the extension of SR 167 to the Port of Tacoma. SCATBd recognizes the importance of this entire corridor for freight and access to both Ports and supports securing sufficient funding to complete the necessary improvements. We ask that the Port of Tacoma Commissioners also consider contributions to ensure adequate investments in this corridor for the continued economic vitality of King and Pierce Counties. Specifically, we ask that you consider contributions that would secure right of way for the ultimate buildout from SR 512 to I-405 to allow future completion of an additional general purpose lane in each direction.

We appreciate your consideration of our comments, and ask that you contact either of us if you have any questions. The next SCATBd meeting will be on Tuesday, April 17 at 9:00 a.m. at SeaTac City Hall. We would welcome your attendance and participation in our discussion at that time.

Sincerely,

John Wise

Mayor, City of Enumclaw

Chair

Suzette Cooke
Suzette Cooke

Mayor, City of Kent

Vice Chair

South County Area Transportation Board

cc: Sound Transit Board members

RTID Executive Board members

SCATBd members

Port of Seattle Commissioners

Port of Tacoma Commissioners

Phone: (206) 263-4710 Fax: (206) 684-2111

March 29, 2007

The Honorable Shawn Bunney Chair, Executive Board Regional Transportation Investment District 411 University Street, Suite 1200 Seattle, WA. 98101

The Honorable John Ladenburg Chair, Sound Transit Board 401 South Jackson Street Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Chair Bunney and Chair Ladenburg:

On behalf of the South County Area Transportation Board (SCATBd), we are writing to provide our input on the draft plans for the Regional Transportation Investment District (RTID), the revised Blueprint for Progress, and the next phase of Sound Transit, referred to as ST2. SCATBd is pleased to offer its support for both of these plans. Despite recent investments by the State and Sound Transit, our transportation infrastructure is on the verge of breaking down. In order to maintain and grow our jobs, especially those related to trade and other areas of economic development, and enhance our quality of life, we need more improvements. SCATBd believes that the draft plans being considered by RTID and Sound Transit include the highest priority projects. While there are other important transportation needs in South King County that cannot be funded in the joint regional transportation package, we believe that the draft plans build on previous investments of the State and Sound Transit and offer projects that will provide the greatest benefit to our citizens and the region

- 1. We support Sound Transit's plan to extend light rail as far south as possible, and we urge you to aggressively pursue measures to allow extension to the Tacoma Dome as part of ST2.
- 2. We also support the completion of the Tukwila Sounder Station, full implementation of Sounder Commuter Rail service, and the additional projects in Auburn and Burien.
- 3. We recognize that full completion of the SR 509 corridor will not be possible with \$870 million in RTID funds, given anticipated cost increases. However, we believe that the phase described in the January 2007 Blueprint for Progress will provide significant congestion relief for freight, commuters, transit and general traffic. By providing this missing link, completing connections to I-5 and providing a direct southern access to Sea-Tac Airport, this project will improve mobility on I-5, and access to the Duwamish

industrial area and to both the airport and seaport. We recognize that the Port of Seattle has committed funding toward completion of south access to the Airport. We encourage both the Port of Seattle and the Port of Tacoma to work in partnership with RTID, Sound Transit and cities to ensure that all identified improvements along SR 509 can be completed.

- 4. In all of its previous recommendations for the RTID plan, SCATBd has consistently requested improvements to the SR 167 corridor. We appreciate the Executive Board's efforts to identify and fund the investments in the corridor that will provide the greatest benefit, and support the recommendation to provide \$410 million for corridor improvements and \$380 million for direct HOV to HOV access at the SR 167/I-405 interchange. We believe that improvements planned for SR 167 in Pierce County will also provide a significant benefit for congestion relief and freight mobility.
- 5. The proposed project at I-5/SR 18/SR 161 (Federal Way Triangle) is an important project for freight mobility and congestion relief. We are pleased that the RTID draft plan would include \$50 million for this project, but would encourage an additional contribution to complete the next phase of this important project.
- 6. SCATBd supports the inclusion of the Industrial Way HOV Ramp and the South Park Bridge projects in the revised plan. SCATBd believes that South Park Bridge project is a necessary component of the system for the movement of freight and workers in the Duwamish area. In order for the full benefit of the SR 509 project to be realized, this Bridge must be improved so that it continues to provide this additional access across the river for workers and businesses. Improvements to the Industrial Way ramp will provide more direct access to transit priority routes for South King and Pierce County transit riders, and improve mobility on I-5 for other users as well.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. We look forward to the issuance of the final plan in April and a successful vote in November.

Sincerely,

John Wise

Mayor, City of Enumclaw

Chair

Suzette Cooke
Suzette Cooke

Mayor, City of Kent

Vice Chair

South County Area Transportation Board

cc: Sound Transit Board members RTID Executive Board members SCATBd members

Phone: (206) 263-4710 Fax: (206) 684-2111

March 29, 2007

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SCATBd has devoted many hours over the last five years in identifying and refining priority projects for funding through a regional transportation package. We are now at a point where the project list has been narrowed to a limited set of roads and transit priorities. While there are other important transportation needs in South King County and Pierce County that still need funding, several of which could significantly benefit freight mobility, we believe that the draft RTID and ST plans include the most important projects to undertake next. These improvements will complement the initial investments in Sound Transit facilities and services and the improvements in the state system that are being made with the Nickel package and the Transportation Partnership Account. Together, we believe that these are the highest priorities for the next set of investments to improve mobility for freight, transit, commuters and the general public.

Specifically, we support the following projects included in the draft plans:

- 1. Improvements to the SR 509 corridor.
- 2. Improvements to the SR 167 corridor, including investments to alleviate chokepoints, direct HOV to HOV access at the SR 167/I-405 interchange and an extension to the Port of Tacoma.
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The Honorable John Creighton and The Honorable Jack Fabulich March 29, 2007 Page 2

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- 6. The Industrial Way HOV Ramp and the South Park Bridge projects, which will provide considerable benefit to South King and Pierce County residents, transit riders and businesses.

Unfortunately, given anticipated cost increases, it appears that the regional package will not be able to fully fund all the needed projects. For example, the \$870 million of RTID funds is not sufficient to complete the full SR 509 corridor improvements. As you know, this is an important project necessary for congestion relief on I-5, improved access to the airport and seaport, and general mobility for freight and other traffic in this part of the region. We appreciate the Port of Seattle's partnership in this project, evidenced by its funding commitment to the South Access project. We urge the Commission to seriously consider additional contributions to the SR 509 project to bring it closer to full completion.

In addition, SCATBd has long supported improvements in the SR 167 corridor in both King and Pierce Counties. We were pleased to see that the RTID plan includes some funding for projects in King County and the extension of SR 167 to the Port of Tacoma. SCATBd recognizes the importance of this entire corridor for freight and access to both Ports and supports securing sufficient funding to complete the necessary improvements. We ask that the Port of Tacoma Commissioners also consider contributions to ensure adequate investments in this corridor for the continued economic vitality of King and Pierce Counties. Specifically, we ask that you consider contributions that would secure right of way for the ultimate buildout from SR 512 to I-405 to allow future completion of an additional general purpose lane in each direction.

We appreciate your consideration of our comments, and ask that you contact either of us if you have any questions. The next SCATBd meeting will be on Tuesday, April 17 at 9:00 a.m. at SeaTac City Hall. We would welcome your attendance and participation in our discussion at that time.

Sincerely,

John Wise

Mayor, City of Enumclaw

Chair

Suzette Cooke
Suzette Cooke

Mayor, City of Kent

Vice Chair

South County Area Transportation Board

cc: Sound Transit Board members

RTID Executive Board members

SCATBd members

Port of Seattle Commissioners

Port of Tacoma Commissioners

Phone: (206) 263-4710 Fax: (206) 684-2111

March 29, 2007

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The Honorable John Ladenburg Chair, Sound Transit Board 401 South Jackson Street Seattle, WA 98104

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industrial area and to both the airport and seaport. We recognize that the Port of Seattle has committed funding toward completion of south access to the Airport. We encourage both the Port of Seattle and the Port of Tacoma to work in partnership with RTID, Sound Transit and cities to ensure that all identified improvements along SR 509 can be completed.

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- 6. SCATBd supports the inclusion of the Industrial Way HOV Ramp and the South Park Bridge projects in the revised plan. SCATBd believes that South Park Bridge project is a necessary component of the system for the movement of freight and workers in the Duwamish area. In order for the full benefit of the SR 509 project to be realized, this Bridge must be improved so that it continues to provide this additional access across the river for workers and businesses. Improvements to the Industrial Way ramp will provide more direct access to transit priority routes for South King and Pierce County transit riders, and improve mobility on I-5 for other users as well.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. We look forward to the issuance of the final plan in April and a successful vote in November.

Sincerely,

John Wise

Mayor, City of Enumclaw

Chair

Suzette Cooke
Suzette Cooke

Mayor, City of Kent

Vice Chair

South County Area Transportation Board

cc: Sound Transit Board members RTID Executive Board members SCATBd members

Phone: (206) 263-4710 Fax: (206) 684-2111

March 29, 2007

The Honorable Mary Margaret Haugen Chair, Senate Transportation Committee Washington State Legislature 305 John A. Cherberg Building P.O. Box 40410 Olympia, WA 98504-0410

The Honorable Judy Clibborn Chair, House Transportation Committee Washington State Legislature 435 John L. O'Brien Building PO Box 40600 Olympia, WA. 98504-0600

Dear Senator Haugen and Representative Clibborn:

On February 26, we sent a letter on behalf of the South King County Area Transportation Board (SCATBd), expressing our concern about Senate Bill 5803, and its potential adverse impact on the regional transportation ballot measure. We also expressed concerned about the apparent lack of integration of land use and transportation planning represented in the bill, and the reduced involvement of local elected officials in the planning and decision making process.

We understand that substitute legislation that is currently under consideration attempts to address some of our concerns about the involvement of local elected officials. Since they are in the best position to ensure a strong link between transportation investments and land use development, we believe that they should continue to have a major role in the decision process. We appreciate that modifications from the original bill and hope that those elements continue to be improved as you revise the legislation.

SCATBd members remain concerned, however, that approving legislation now to create a new entity for transportation planning and programming could have adverse effects on the Roads & Transit fall ballot. SCATBd has been working hard with Sound Transit and RTID for months to refine the regional package. Radical changes in regional transportation governance structures at this juncture could compromise success in November. It is hard to imagine how the public would be willing to support a significant tax increase without clarity on who would be making decisions about how those revenues will be spent.

The Honorable Mary Margaret Haugen and The Honorable Judy Clibborn March 29, 2007 Page 2

We have made good progress in achieving a high level of consensus on the regional package and believe that conditions are promising for a positive vote this fall. We urge you to carefully consider any changes to the transportation decision making process in this region to ensure that the ballot measure is allowed every chance for success.

Suzette Cooke
Suzette Cooke

Vice Chair

Mayor, City of Kent

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely,

John Wise

Mayor, City of Enumclaw

Chair South County Area Transportation Board

cc: South King County legislators

SCATBd members

Phone: (206) 263-4710 Fax: (206) 684-2111

February 27, 2007

The Honorable Mary Margaret Haugen Chair, Senate Transportation Committee Washington State Legislature 305 John A. Cherberg Building P.O. Box 40410 Olympia, WA 98504-0410

The Honorable Judy Clibborn Chair, House Transportation Committee 435 John L. O'Brien Building Washington State Legislature PO Box 40600 Olympia, WA. 98504-0600

Dear Senator Haugen and Representative Clibborn:

On behalf of the South King County Area Transportation Board (SCATBd), comprised of locally elected officials from King County and seventeen South King County cities, we are writing to express SCATBd's concern about Senate Bill 5803. We believe this bill is seriously flawed, and the concept of re-arranging the structure of regional transportation governance is potentially misguided. SB 5803 does not adequately address the primary transportation problem we face: insufficient funding due to a 30-year project and maintenance backlog, and the demands of recent population and economic growth.

Last session, the Legislature and the Governor directed the Puget Sound region to integrate planning efforts, and develop a Roads & Transit package for the fall ballot. The South King delegation supported the first steps in tackling the funding issue by helping to pass the Nickel and TPA packages. Thank you for that support. And now, the joint Roads & Transit package would build on your gas tax investments, the defeat of I-912, and Sound Transit's transit investments.

SCATBd has been working hard with Sound Transit and RTID for months to refine the regional package. Radical changes in regional transportation governance structures at this juncture could compromise success. We have made good progress and believe that conditions are promising for a positive vote in November.

The Honorable Mary Margaret Haugen and The Honorable Judy Clibborn February 27, 2007 Page 2

We urge you to oppose SB 5803 and any similar legislation to enact the recommendations of the Regional Transportation Commission in this session.

Sincerely,

John Wise

Mayor, City of Enumclaw

Chair

Suzette Cooke

Mayor, City of Kent

Vice Chair

South County Area Transportation Board

cc: South King County Legislators

SCATBd Members

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Dear Senator Haugen and Representative Clibborn:

On behalf of the South King County Area Transportation Board (SCATBd), which represents seventeen South King County cities, King County and other partner agencies, we are writing to express SCATBd's support for legislation that would enhance the chances for the success of the regional transportation ballot measure in the November general election. We support Senate Bill 5282 and House Substitute Bill 1396, providing for a single ballot question seeking approval of both the Regional Transportation Investment District (RTID) plan and the Sound Transit Phase 2 (ST2) plan. These bills would fulfill the legislature's original intent by providing voters with an easier and more efficient method to express their collective will this fall.

We urge you to support these bills without substantive or significant changes.

Sincerely,

John Wise

Mayor, City of Enumclaw

Chair

Suzette Cooke Mayor, City of Kent

Vice Chair

South County area Transportation Board

cc: South King County Legislators

SCATBd members